

2000  
Annual Report



*Children are the Future*  
*Seniors are the Foundation*

*A New Century ...*  
*A New Look at Aging*

## Idaho Commission on Aging

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**Contact your local Area Agency on Aging**

**Toll-free: 1-877-471-2777**

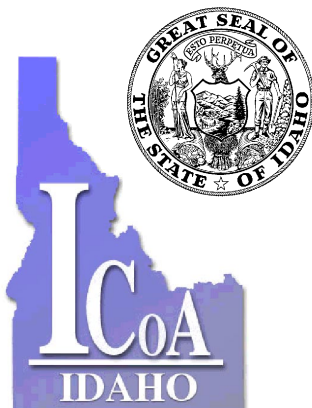
### Vision Statement

Easy access  
to Aging and Adult Services.

### Mission Statement

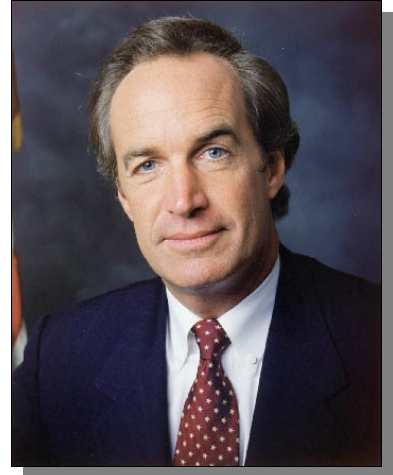
To assist seniors  
and vulnerable adults  
retain their dignity  
and independence  
by providing  
the options and resources  
to remain in their own homes  
and communities  
for as long as they choose.

**We are here to help you!**





**Dirk Kempthorne**  
Governor



Dear Friends:

Shortly after I was elected Governor, I declared this the "Generation of the Child," for it is our children who hold the keys to our future. But there is an important group of citizens who laid the foundation for that future -- Idaho's senior citizens.

As Idaho Aging Commission Director Lupe Wissel has pointed out, this is a generation that is growing:

- § In just six years, the first of the "Baby Boom" generation will turn 60.
- § While one in five Idahoans is now 55 or older, in just 20 years, one out of five Idahoans will be 65 or older.
- § A child born in 1900 could expect to live be 47 years old; a child born today has a life expectancy of 76.5 years -- a 29-year increase.

This wonderful achievement in longevity brings with it additional challenges. That's why the work of the Idaho Commission on Aging is so important.

The Commission is charged by law to be an advocate for senior citizens within state government and administer funding for various senior citizen programs. But it's more than just a matter of law. The members and staff of the commission have a personal commitment to seeing that Idaho's senior population can lead active and productive lives in safety and dignity.

I am pleased to receive this report. I thank all of those within the Commission and its partners for their efforts to make Idaho a better place to live.

Sincerely,

*Dirk Kempthorne*

DIRK KEMPTHORNE  
Governor



## **Idaho Commission on Aging**

Lupe Wissel  
Director

Dear Friends:

It is with great pride that I share with you the Idaho Commission on Aging 2000 Annual Report. I am extremely pleased with the fine work performed by ICOA staff and our partners in aging.

I hope this document gives you a good understanding of our mission, goals, and objectives. As we step into the dawn of a new century, I'm pleased to report that the Idaho Commission on Aging is looking ahead and preparing for our state's senior citizens. That preparation is important. The total number of older Idaho citizens is growing...and those citizens are growing older.

- § We know in the last ten years, Idaho's 60+ population grew by 24.1% or 40,249 seniors.
- § We also know that the fastest growing age group in Idaho is the 85+ population.
- § And we know that in 2006, the first Baby Boomer will reach age 60, kicking off what will be a population explosion of senior citizens in Idaho.

Today's seniors are living longer due to advances in medical technology and the fact that we are living healthier lives. Many Idahoans over 60 don't view themselves as "senior citizens," but as mature individuals with abilities, skills and talents. However, we have some older citizens that are not as fortunate. They require assistance to remain in their homes and maintain their independence, health and safety. That's where the work of the Idaho Commission on Aging comes in.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve this great state and the seniors of Idaho.

Sincerely,

# **Lupé**

Lupé Wissel  
Director



## Idaho Commission on Aging

Larry Vincent  
Chairman



Dear Governor Kempthorne:

It's a tremendous pleasure to serve as the Chairman of the Idaho Commission on Aging. As Chairman I am pleased to submit to you the Commission's annual report for FY 2000. This information is also being provided to Senate Pro Tem Bob Geddes and Speaker of the House Bruce Newcomb, as well as other legislators and members of the public.

The enclosed report reflects the work of the Idaho Commission on Aging and its partners. The report also includes recommendations to the Legislature. Also included is the Ombudsman's report, which in previous years was submitted separately.

As proud as I am of the achievements we have made, it is clear that there is much that remains to be done. Idaho's aging population has grown substantially in the past ten years and will grow dramatically in the coming years.

The Commissioners, Director Wissel and ICOA staff are united in our efforts to do all that we can for Idaho's seniors. I hope this report reflects that commitment and dedication.

Sincerely,

*Larry Vincent*

Larry Vincent  
Chairman

# Idaho law sets out the duties and responsibilities of the Commissioners



- § Serve as an advocate within state government and the community for older Idahoans.
- § Serve as an advisory body regarding state legislative issues affecting older Idahoans.
- § Make rules related to programs and services administered by the Commission.
- § Enter into grants and contracts within the limits of appropriated funds to carry out programs and services for older Idahoans.
- § Conduct public hearings and evaluations to determine the health and social needs of older Idahoans, and determine the public and private resources to meet those needs.
- § Designate "Planning and Service Areas" (PSAs) and "Area Agencies on Aging" (AAAs) in accordance with the Older Americans Act and federal regulations and shall review the boundaries of the areas periodically.
- § Submit an annual report each December to the Governor and the Legislature discussing accomplishments and recommendations for improvements of programs and services for older Idahoans.
- § Administer and perform any other related functions activities assigned to the Commission by the Governor.



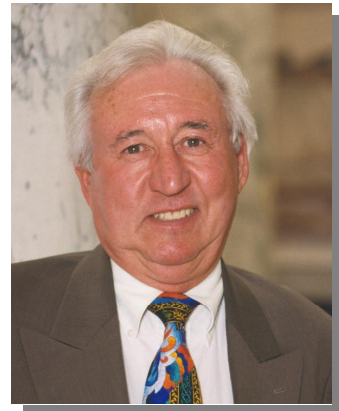


## Commissioners



### **Area 1**

John Albee  
4000 Riverview Terrace  
Post Falls, ID 83854  
(208) 777-7213  
Appointed: June 2000  
Expires: June 2001



### **Area 3**

Bill Brewer  
1275 Kimberley Lane  
Boise, ID 83712  
(208) 388-1006  
Appointed: July 1998  
Reappointed: July 1999  
Expires: 2003



### **Area 4**

Helen Arnold  
1094 Desertview Dr.  
Twin Falls, ID 83301  
(208) 734-4110  
Appointed: July 1995  
Reappointed: July 1998  
Expires: July 2002



### **Area 2**

Larry Vincent, Chairman  
Route 1, Box 72-D  
Culdesac, ID 83524 (208)843-7212  
Appointed: July 1995  
Reappointed: July 1997  
Expires: July 2001



### **Area 5**

Millie Flandro  
4944 Mohawk Place  
Pocatello, ID 83204  
(208) 237-1300  
Appointed: July 1996  
Reappointed: July 1998  
Expires: July 2002



### **At-Large**

Art Finnell  
3670 Sugar Creek  
Meridian, ID 83642  
(208) 888-1287  
Appointed: July 1997  
Expires: July 2001



### **Area 6**

Mary Lee Curtis  
P.O. Box 580  
Rexburg, ID 83440  
(208) 356-3191  
Appointed: July 1995  
Reappointed: July 1998  
Expires: July 2002

## How the Idaho Commission on Aging helps seniors with the funding we receive

The Idaho Commission on Aging works through six Area Agencies on Aging to deliver services for Idaho's seniors. Those agencies are located in Coeur d'Alene, Lewiston, Weiser, Twin Falls, Pocatello and Idaho Falls.

Here's a report card on the services we provided and the number of people we helped in FY 2000

**Our goal is to help people stay at home for as long they are able and wish to remain. This keeps seniors happy and is less expensive for individuals, their families and taxpayers.**

In order to help Idaho seniors remain at home, Area Agencies on Aging provide congregate meals where seniors can meet, socialize, and receive nutritious food.

Other help is provided as well, including chore services (helping seniors fix and maintain their homes), homemaker services (making beds, vacuuming, etc...) and transportation to meal sites, doctors offices and other facilities.

Congregate meals are provided at over 90 sites in Idaho. Under current funding, most centers are only open three days per week.

Name of program/service	People helped
Adult protection	1,953
Case management	3,522
Chore	534
Congregate meals	30,584
Home delivered meals	9,363
Homemaker	4,441
Ombudsman	2,271
Respite	299
Transportation trips	218,782



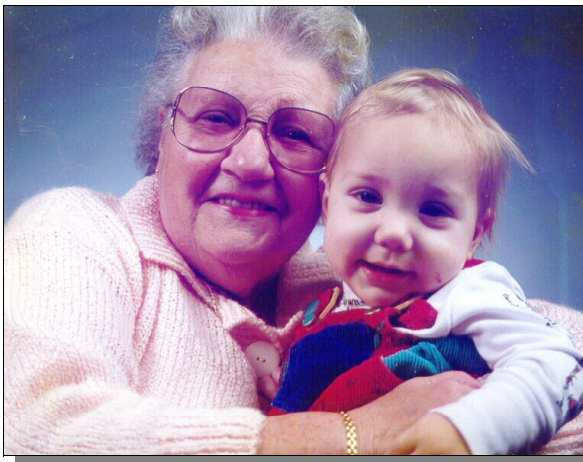


In late 2000 and throughout 2001, ICOA will air a television commercial about our Medicare Education Partnership program. The commercial will run throughout Idaho as both a paid and public service ad.



### **Educating Medicare Beneficiaries and Families**

*In FY 2000 the Idaho Commission on Aging formed the Idaho Medicare Education Partnership program, which is funded through a federal grant. Using staff from Idaho's Senior Health Benefit Advisors (SHIBA) and Area Agencies on Aging, the program is designed to help beneficiaries and their families become aware of Medicare benefits and rectify any billing problems. In one case an elderly woman was charged for prostate surgery. Program staff were able to help recoup approximately \$9,000 from that one billing error. In a single month alone the program recouped over \$25,000 for taxpayers.*



### **Toll Free Number Launched**

The Idaho Commission on Aging has launched a new toll free number:

**1-877-471-2777**

The number uses state-of-the-art technology that links seniors to their local Area Agency on Aging.

### **Promoting Intergenerational Programs**

*The Idaho Commission on Aging has begun an effort to bring seniors and youth together. In May of 2000 we received a grant from the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare to develop a school-based, intergenerational mentoring program. In 2001 ICOA will partner with the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) and high schools in Coeur d'Alene, Twin Falls and Pocatello during the first full year of the project. This effort will link senior citizens with students at risk of dropping out of school. Mentoring offers older adults an opportunity to share experiences and remain active in the community, while students learn social and professional for future success.*

# IDAHO'S OLDER WORKER PROGRAM CONTINUES TO LEAD THE NATION

In May of 2000, Congress unanimously passed the "Senior Citizens Freedom to Work Act." The timing could not have been better. Unemployment is at a record low in Idaho and the need for a talented work force is at a record high. Now seniors will no longer be financially penalized for working.

**Idaho's Older Worker Program  
has ranked  
#1 in the nation  
seven of the last nine years  
and #2nd in the nation twice!**

Our Senior Community Service Employment Program enrolled 129 individuals. Idaho's enrollment goal, which is set by the U. S. Department of Labor, was 81. Of those enrolled, 48 were placed in jobs at an average wage of \$7.25 per hour.

Idaho's Job Training Partnership Act Program also exceeded national standards, enrolling 126 job seekers and placing 58 in jobs at an average wage of \$7.75 per hour.



Governor Kempthorne with Director Wissel declares March 14-20 "Employ The Older Worker Week."

Key to Idaho's success is our focus on obtaining the work experience and occupational training needed to successfully compete for jobs. Throughout the year older

**The Idaho program achieved a  
placement rate of 83%.... the  
national goal was 25%**

individuals enrolled in the JTPA Program completed 5,300 hours of training. Those in the SCSEP Program completed 46,719 hours of work experience and community service.

Performance Measures	National Goal	Idaho's Performance
<b>Senior Community Service Employment Program Placements</b>	25%	<b>83%</b>
<b>Job Training Partnership Act Entered Employment Rate</b>	58%	<b>81%</b>
<b>Job Training Partnership Act Average Wage at Placement</b>	\$6.35	<b>\$7.75</b>



Juanita Hernandez is one of our success stories.

*Juanita Hernandez (pictured above) is just one of the seniors whose life was touched by the program. At 61, Juanita says she has worked most of her life. . . and has no plans to quit working anytime soon.*

*Hernandez, guardian for her two grandchildren, now works for the Parents as Teachers Program with the University of Idaho Extension Service in American Falls. She visits with area families, using games to test child development, and giving early childhood education information to pregnant mothers.*

*Finding the job was not easy. "I kept applying for jobs, and they said they would call. No one from that time has ever called."*

*Juanita first got involved with the "Idaho Works" Older Worker Program in February 2000 after*

*closing her business due to financial problems. Like many her age, she had trouble finding a new job because of her lack of computer experience.*

*Through the Senior Community Service Employment Program, Juanita was able to acquire the skills and confidence she needed to get a job. The program paid for computer instruction at Idaho State University and arranged a work experience at the Southeast Idaho Community Action Agency. She then practiced the skills she learned in the classroom on the job.*

*Juanita was eventually able to create spreadsheets, use word processing and other computer skills. The experience helped her market her bilingual skills and gave her the confidence she needed to apply for new jobs. And the job she landed pays \$15.00 per hour!*

*"It's not simple and it's not easy, but it can be done," she said.*

This story contains excerpts from an Idaho State Journal (Pocatello) article titled:  
"Job Service offers job skills training, placement for seniors."





# Adult Protection Program Faces the Challenge of Adult and Elder Abuse

The abuse, neglect, and exploitation of our most vulnerable citizens is a serious and growing problem. National statistics indicate that only 1 in 14 of these cases is ever reported to state or local authorities.

Adult Protection workers are on the front lines facing the challenges presented by these complex and often tragic cases. The following scenario is just one of several hundreds of cases that come to the attention of Adult Protection each year:

*During FY 2000, Adult Protection workers received a referral involving an 84-year-old. The senior citizen was admitted to a hospital exhibiting extreme signs of physical abuse and neglect. This vulnerable adult was suffering from extreme dehydration, malnutrition, 80-90 pound weight loss, numerous bruises, and bed-sores so severe that underlying bone was visible beneath peeled away skin -- all as a result of neglect and abuse sustained at the hand of the daughter.*

*The attending physician indicated that this was the worst case of physical neglect he had ever witnessed.*

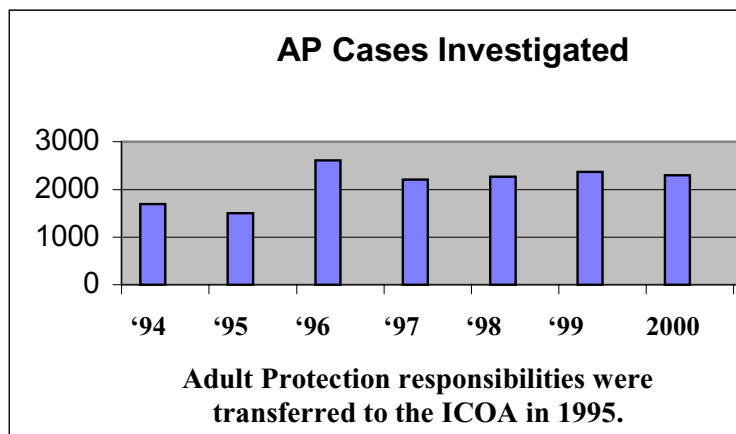


At the time of publication Adult Protection was working closely with the local prosecuting attorney to pursue criminal charges against the perpetrator.

## Program Accomplishments

In FY 2000, over 75% of the 1,150 seniors helped by Adult Protection staff had the risk of harm reduced or eliminated. During this same period of time, 370 cases of abuse, neglect, and exploitation were referred to law enforcement. Over 30 of those cases resulted in prosecutions.

Over 250 self-neglecting seniors were provided with necessary services through the successful implementation of *Plans of Supportive Service*, dramatically improving their quality of life.



Adult Protection continues to work with Health and Welfare, law enforcement, nursing homes, bank managers, and others to reduce the incidences of adult abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

# OMBUDSMAN FOR THE ELDERLY

## ANNUAL REPORT

### 2000



The Ombudsman for the Elderly is a federally mandated program that protects the health, welfare, safety, and rights of citizens over 60 living in long-term care facilities and in the community.

Seven full-time substate Ombudsmen located in our six Area Agencies on Aging investigate complaints on behalf of Idaho's elderly in the community and in long-term care facilities. In addition we ensure a regular presence in Idaho's 88 nursing homes and 138 assisted living/residential care facilities. We also provide public education on a variety of aging issues.



This year, the second half of a federal grant made it possible to improve Internet access for our Ombudsmen and Information and Referral programs. We are now able to more quickly access up-to-date information on Medicare benefits and other valuable resources for seniors.

In this past fiscal year we partnered with Idaho Public Television to develop information on end-of-life issues. We helped provide local resource contacts for the public television website. A national four-part series by Bill Moyers on death and dying was aired by public television. The state Ombudsman participated in follow-up local panel discussion to address caller's questions on end-of-life issues.

In an effort to improve the oversight and monitoring of Idaho's long-term care facilities, the Ombudsman now holds regular meetings with the Department of Health & Welfare's Bureau of Facility Standards. Strategies are being developed to provide enhanced oversight of facilities now in bankruptcy to ensure that seniors receive the quality of care they deserve.

This is the first year the Ombudsman's report has been included with the ICOA report.



## OMBUDSMAN COMPLAINTS

In FY 2000, the Ombudsmen investigated 2541 complaints:

- § 1369 in nursing homes
- § 504 in residential care and assisted living centers
- § 668 in Idaho communities

The three most common complaints for residential and assisted living facilities were:  
administration and management of medication, legal issues such as guardianship, and problems with billing.

### Residential Care and Assisted Living Centers

Resident Rights	148	30%
Resident Care	118	24%
Outside Systems	106	21%
Quality of Life	77	15%
Administrative	50	10%
Totals	499	100%

## Protecting Idaho seniors

The office of the Ombudsman investigates complaints regarding nursing homes, assisted living centers and communities. This page and the one that follows details the number of complaints processed and their resolution. Protecting Idaho's senior citizens is one of our highest priorities.

### Nursing Homes

Resident Rights	350	34%
Resident Care	300	29%
Outside Systems	216	21%
Quality of Life	124	12%
Administrative	46	21%
Totals	1036	100%

### Community

Outside Systems	370	55%
Resident Rights	164	25%
Resident Care	67	10%
Administrative	41	6%
Quality of Life	27	4%
Totals	669	100%

The Ombudsman investigates complaints falling under five general complaint categories chosen by the U.S. Administration on Aging.

## Ombudsman Complaint Disposition for Cases Closed

	<b>NURSING HOMES</b>		<b>RESIDENTIAL CARE &amp; ASSISTED LIVING CENTERS</b>		<b>COMMUNITY</b>	
Legislative / regulatory	15	1%	20	4%	0	0%
Not Resolved	31	3%	28	6%	17	3%
Withdrawn	36	4%	22	4%	23	4%
Referred / no report	85	9%	52	11%	153	24%
Referred / other agency	2	0%	3	1%	0	0%
No action needed	100	10%	64	13%	44	7%
<b>Partially resolved</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>19%</b>
<b>Fully resolved</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>43%</b>

These totals include open cases carried over from the previous year and closed in 2000.

### The Purpose of this Data

The Idaho Commission on Aging maintains a statewide system to collect data on complaints in order to identify systemic problems. These problems become the basis of major issues pursued by the Commission on Aging through requests for legislative, regulatory, or policy changes.

Ombudsmen made 154 visits to senior centers and meal sites.

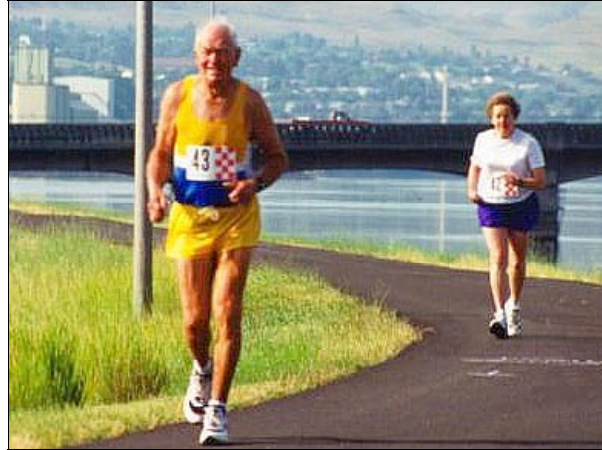
Ombudsmen are required to visit 165 assisted living and residential care facilities two times each year. They exceeded this requirement by visiting 555 times in FY 2000.

Ombudsmen must visit 88 Idaho nursing homes at least one time each quarter. Ombudsmen exceeded this requirement by visiting 427 times in FY 2000.

## CHOICES FOR SENIORS MAKE GOOD FISCAL SENSE

Most senior citizens want choices that enable them to remain in their own home and community rather than going to a nursing home or other institutional setting. This makes good fiscal sense as well as preserving the individual's quality of life.

With the entire range of services offered through the Commission and the Area Agencies on Aging, many seniors and their families were able to remain in their own homes in fiscal 2000.



**In Idaho, the average Medicaid cost for nursing home care is approximately \$36,000 a year.**

**With ICOA assistance, many seniors can remain in their own homes for less than \$6,000 a year.**

The following is an example of how ICOA's in-home care services help keep citizens in their homes . . . their primary choice:

*An 83-year-old veteran sought respite services through the Area Agency on Aging in Twin Falls. The man was the sole caregiver for his widowed brother -- who was terminally ill and bed ridden. When the 83-year-old contacted the Area Agency on Aging he was referred to the Case Manager. A subsequent review identified a myriad of physical and functional problems for both the 83-year-old and his brother, as well as some exploitation issues dealing with other family members.*

*As a result of ICOA funded services, the brothers received respite care, as well as assistance with shopping and other tasks. Homemaker services were dispatched to help maintain a clean and healthy environment. Home delivered meals were also provided. A referral was made to the Commission on the Blind. Contacts were made with the local pharmacy to better organize medications. Adult Protection and Case Management consulted with the brothers and intervened whenever family exploitation became a possibility.*

Long after the death of the brother, the 83-year-old continued to receive the on-going support that helped him remain at home with dignity and a support network.

**The number of seniors in need of home delivered meals increased by 46% in 2000.**

**We were only able to fund 504,063 meals... or 54 meals per year per senior... or about one meal per week.**

# Two proposals for the Idaho Legislature

The Idaho Commission on Aging has proposed  
the following legislation for the 2001 session

## Adult Protection Emergency Fund

There has been a problem in Idaho of quickly moving senior citizens and other vulnerable adults from dangerous situations into safer facilities -- such as Certified Family Homes and Residential and Assisted Living Facilities. To remedy this problem, we recommend the passage of legislation to create an "Adult Protection Emergency Fund."

Currently some providers will not accept an older adult into their safe facility unless a Medicaid reimbursement is approved prior to placement. This process can take a significant amount of time during which the vulnerable adult is forced to stay in a perilous environment. The Adult Protection Emergency Fund will help address this need by ensuring funding for short-term stays. Once Medicaid funding is approved for the client, the providers may be able to reimburse the Adult Protection Emergency Fund.

Additionally, most non-Medicaid eligible Adult Protection clients require financial assistance to pay for temporary room and board expenses. Others require money for transportation to connect with both formal (i.e., a care facility such as a nursing home) and informal supports (i.e., family or friends) both in and out of state.

A few clients have short-term needs for food, clothing and medication. The Fund could, on a case-by-case basis, address those needs.

## Adult Protection Access to Information

Under current Idaho code, Adult Protection workers cannot provide to law enforcement officials the names of alleged perpetrators and other parties referenced in Adult Protection reports.

The Commission recommends passage of legislation to correct this area of law. . . removing overly restrictive rules and confidentiality requirements.



*Boise became the territorial capital of Idaho in 1865 and state capital in 1890. Construction of Idaho's present capitol building began in 1905. The Idaho Commission on Aging was housed there until 1998.*

# Idaho House and Senate pass two bills sought by the Commission on Aging

## Measures streamline government service



*Idaho Senate Pro Tem*  
**Bob Geddes**

### **Senate Bill 1313** **Amendment to the State Senior Services Act**

This amendment eliminated a restriction on the use of Senior Service Act funds. Prior to passage of SB 1313, the law required that *all* increases in funding under the act after 1982 be used for

in-home services. The amendment eliminated that restriction so that increases in state funding could be used for transportation and congregate meals.

SB 1313 passed the Idaho Senate and House without opposition.

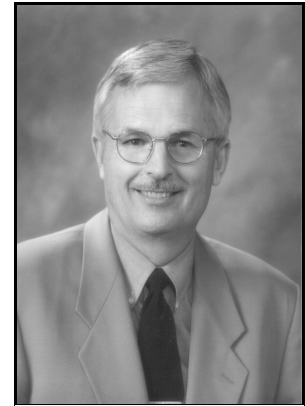


### **House Bill 407** **Resident-to-Resident Abuse**

This amendment to the Adult Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation Act provides a limited exemption from the reporting of resident-to-resident altercations in public and private health care facilities, and licensed or certified centers.

The amendment requires reporting of resident-to-resident contact constituting sexual abuse, or leading to death or serious injury jeopardizing the life health and safety of a vulnerable adult. However, physical or verbal altercations, not resulting in observable physical or mental injury are only reportable if the altercations constitute an ongoing pattern. The legislation also allows Adult Protection's professional staff discretion in determining the method with which the alleged victim or perpetrator will be interviewed.

HB 407 passed with only one dissenting vote in the Idaho Senate.



*Speaker of the House*  
**Bruce Newcomb**

Implementation of these bills streamlined government services and allowed ICOA to respond more effectively to the needs of our most vulnerable adults.



# **U.S. Congress unanimously passes the "Senior Citizens' Freedom to Work Act"**

**One of the most major changes to Social Security since 1935**

In March, 2000, the U.S. Congress unanimously passed the "Senior Citizens' Freedom to Work Act." President Clinton signed the bill April 7. It's now Public Law 106-182.



## **Idaho's elected officials in Washington, D.C.**

U.S. Senator Larry Craig  
U.S. Representative Mike Simpson  
U.S. Representative Helen Chenoweth-Hage  
U.S. Senator Mike Crapo

Passage of Freedom to Work Act legislation is one of the most major changes to the senior citizen's safety net since the creation of Social Security in 1935.

The new law removes the Retirement Earnings Test for individuals age 65-69.

Prior to passage, workers in this age group lost \$1 in Social Security benefits for every \$3 in wages they made above \$17,000.

The earnings test remains in effect for those 62-64. A modified test applies for the year that an individual reaches 65. Although passed in March and signed into law in April, this legislation is retroactive; it applies to money earned since January 1, 2000.

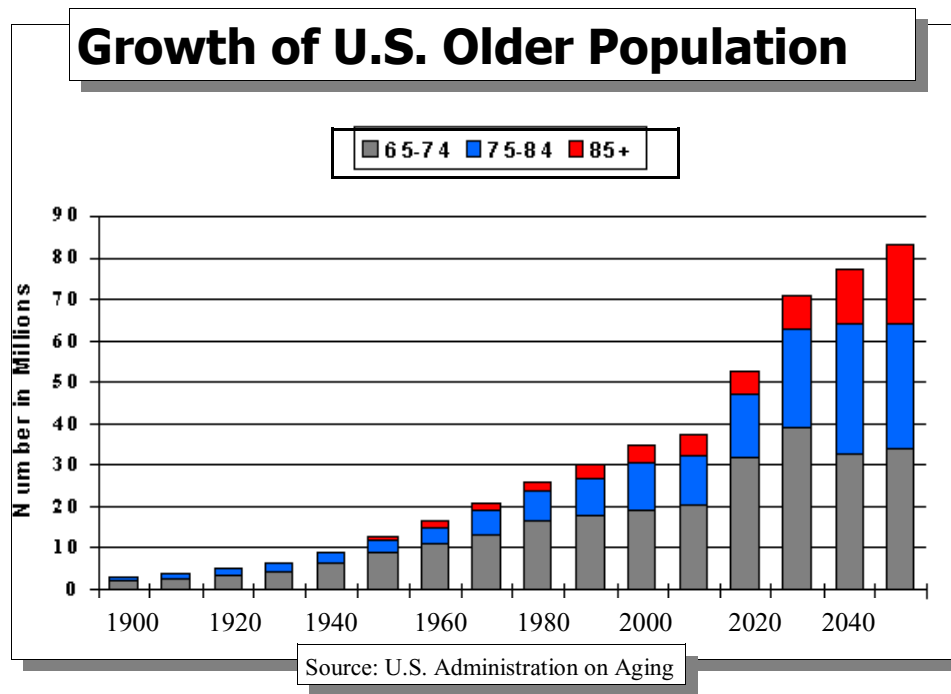
The Social Security earnings limit was part of the original Depression-era Social Security Act. Policymakers at the time believed that an earnings limit would encourage seniors to retire and open up jobs for younger workers.

The Idaho Commission on Aging applauds Idaho's Congressional delegation and other members of Congress for passing this important improvement in the lives of Idaho seniors.



# Idaho's population is growing... and we're growing older

- § The percentage of seniors as a share of Idaho's total population has increased from 8.7% in 1960 to 11.3% in 1998. By 2025, seniors will encompass 21.5% of the Idaho population.
- § *Today approximately one person in every nine people in Idaho is a senior citizen. That number will be two in ten in the coming decades.*
- § The senior population in Idaho is getting older... the number of people age 85 years and up increased 274% from 1960-1995.



From 1990-2000, Idaho's senior population increased 40,209\*

	1990	2000	Percentage growth
Idaho senior citizens	166,817	207,066	24.1%

\*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, July 1, 2000

The most rapid increase in the older population will be between 2010 and 2030 as the "Baby Boomers" age.

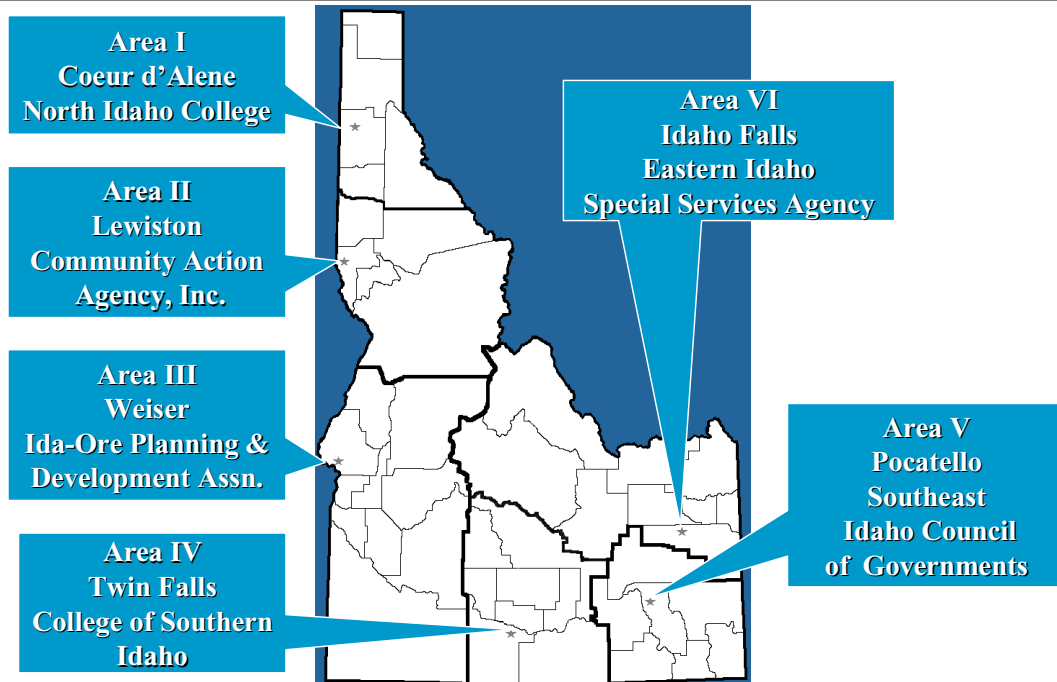
In 2025 it is projected that

374,000 Idahoans will be age 65+.

They will encompass 21.5% of the total population.

# Where to go to get help...

## Area Agencies on Aging are located in a community near you



### **Area I**

North Idaho College  
1221 Ironwood Dr., Suite 102  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
208-667-31279 or (800)786-5536

### **Area II**

Community Action Agency, Inc.  
124 New 6th Street  
Lewiston, ID 83501  
208-743-5580 or (800)877-3206

### **Area III**

Ida-Ore Planning and  
Development Association  
P.O. Box 311 (25 West Idaho Street)  
Weiser, ID 83672  
(208) 549-2411 or (800) 859-0425

### **Area IV**

College of Southern Idaho  
P.O. Box 1238 (315 Falls Avenue)  
Twin Falls, ID 83303-1238  
(208) 736-2122 or (800) 859-0324

### **Area V**

Southeast Idaho Council of Governments  
214 East Center Street  
Pocatello, ID 83201  
(208) 233-4032 or (800) 526-8129

### **Area VI**

Eastern Idaho Special Services Agency  
P.O. Box 51098  
(357 Constitution Avenue)  
Idaho Falls, ID 83405  
(208) 522-5391 or (800) 623-4813

## Report Summary

The Idaho Commission on Aging (ICOA) provides services that allow seniors to remain in their homes and communities for as long as they choose. When seniors move to assisted living centers or nursing homes, we provide ombudsman services to help ensure that their rights and dignity are maintained. The demographics in this report show an

**We are looking at prioritization of services to assure that the seniors most in need are provided with services first.**

**This may mean that fewer seniors will receive services, however the services we provide will make the difference between continuing to live at home and moving into an institution.**

Idaho that is rapidly growing older — a trend that will continue until 2039 as the last of the Baby Boomers reach age 65. The fastest growing segment of Idaho is now 85 and older. Seniors are living longer and requiring more services to retain their independence.

This report details areas the Commission on Aging must address to meet the needs of our growing senior population. In FY 2000, we had a 46% increase in seniors in need of home delivered meals — because of that increase, we now average just one meal per week per senior. Funding for this critical program that delivers nutritious food to the most frail-homebound should be increased.

When it comes to homemaker services that assist seniors in remaining safe and healthy at home, current funding allowed us to provide only one half-hour per week of service per client enrolled. Transportation, which is another critical service to help seniors remain at home independently, is also an area of great financial need.

### Looking Ahead

FY 2000 has been a productive year. In 2001 and 2002, ICOA will aggressively promote:

- § Improvement in the quality of case management services
- § Processes for prioritizing services
- § Seven day per week availability of home delivered meals.

We will also seek legislation to ensure that seniors removed from abusive situations have a safe place to go. We will also seek legislation to enable Adult Protection staff and law enforcement to work more effectively together.

Thank you for reviewing this report. If you have questions or concerns, let us know.

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1-877-421-2777**







## Senior Citizen Growth Those 60+ would Become Idaho's 5th largest city

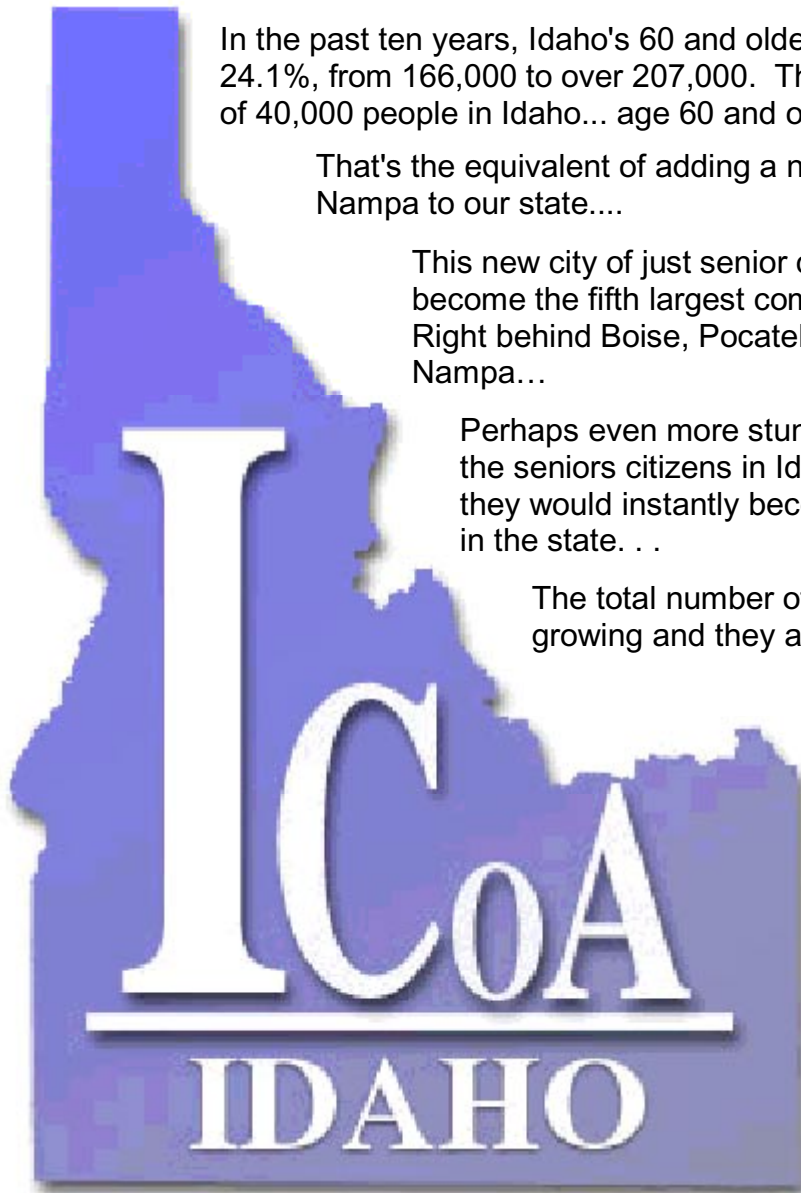
In the past ten years, Idaho's 60 and older population grew 24.1%, from 166,000 to over 207,000. That's an increase of 40,000 people in Idaho... age 60 and older...

That's the equivalent of adding a new city the size of Nampa to our state....

This new city of just senior citizens would become the fifth largest community in Idaho... Right behind Boise, Pocatello, Idaho Falls and Nampa...

Perhaps even more stunning, if you put all the seniors citizens in Idaho in one spot . . . they would instantly become the largest city in the state. . .

The total number of older Idahoans is growing and they are growing older. . .



The  
**Idaho  
Commission  
On  
Aging**  
is working hard  
to provide the  
services that  
seniors need to  
remain  
independent  
and live with  
dignity.

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